



# UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

United States Patent and Trademark Office

Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/619,154	07/14/2003	James Patrick Griffin JR.	16383-2	6780
1059 7590 05/30/2008 BERESKIN AND PARR 40 KING STREET WEST BOX 401 TORONTO, ON M5H 3Y2 CANADA				
EXAMINER STRIMBU, GREGORY J				
ART UNIT 3634		PAPER NUMBER		
MAIL DATE 05/30/2008		DELIVERY MODE PAPER		

**Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.**

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

# Office Action Summary

**Application No.**

10/619,154

**Applicant(s)**

GRIFFIN, JAMES PATRICK

**Examiner**

Gregory J. Strimbu

**Art Unit**

3634

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --  
**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 16 January 2008.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 40-46, 48 and 49 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 40-46, 48, 49 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-8508)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

***Drawings***

The drawing correction filed December 6, 2006 has been approved.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112***

Claims 40-46, 48 and 49 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Recitations such as "the distal edge" on line 21 of claim 40 render the claims indefinite because it is unclear to which one of the plurality of distal edges set forth above the applicant is referring.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 40-45 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over British Patent Application No. 2 265 664 in view of Barnes (US 306806) and Ausubel (US 2489072). British Patent Application No. 2 265 664 discloses a security system for a doorway comprising a door frame (not numbered, but shown in figure 5) constructed in an opening of a wall (not shown) and having two vertical sides, a door jamb attached to and extending the length of one vertical side of the door frame, and a door (not

numbered, but shown in figure 5) sized and shaped to fit within the door frame, the door having a front surface, a rear surface, a top surface, a bottom surface, a free vertical edge portion, and a hinged vertical edge portion, the free vertical edge portion comprising at least one lockset (not numbered, but shown in figure 5) having a portion protruding through the front surface of the door and having a locking member 21 as shown in figure 4 to be received, and the door jamb having at least one opening (not numbered, but shown in figure 4) to receive a locking member 21 from the at least one lockset, the security system comprising: a first U-shaped reinforcing member 2 capable of being securely affixed to the free vertical edge portion of the door, said reinforcing member comprising steel (see page 8, line 33 to page 9, line 2), extending along a length of the free vertical edge portion of the door, having at least one opening 8 for passage of a locking member 21 from the at least one lockset, and comprising a longitudinally extending base member 5 and two substantially perpendicularly positioned side members 3 and 4, each of the side members being generally rectangular and extending substantially along the free vertical edge portion of the door and having a proximal edge connected to the base member and a distal edge and a substantially planar surface extending from the proximal edge to the distal edge, and the base member having a substantially planar surface, and a second reinforcing member 10 capable of being securely affixed to the door jamb, said second reinforcing member having at least one opening 15 for passage of a locking member 21, wherein the U-shaped reinforcing member is capable of being over-bend mounted to the free vertical edge portion of the door (see page 5, lines 17-18) so that the reinforcing

member 2 engages the free vertical edge portion of the door without being screwed to the free vertical edge portion of the door (see page 6, lines 3-4), wherein the second reinforcing member has a length, and wherein force applied against the front or rear surface of the door will be transmitted through at least one locking member to the second reinforcing member and to the door frame, the locking member 21 is a dead bolt, a door latch (not numbered, but shown in figure 4 disposed below the dead bolt 21), screws (not shown, but see page 6, line 3). Although British Patent Application No. 2 265 664 discloses that the front and rear sides of the plate 2 may be of any suitable height and width (page 5, lines 23-31), British Patent Application No. 2 265 664 is arguably silent concerning the lengths of the first and second reinforcing members. Also, British Patent Application No. 2 265 664 is silent concerning the side members having a distal edge located between the proximal edge and the portion of the lockset protruding through the front surface of the door.

However, Barnes discloses a door security system comprising a reinforcing member B extending the full length of the door.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to provide the first U-shaped reinforcing member of British Patent Application No. 2 265 664 with a length extending the full length of the door, as taught by Barnes, to increase the strength of the reinforcing member and thus the effectiveness of the security system.

Additionally, Ausubel discloses a security system for a doorway comprising a door 10, a lockset 13, 14 having a portion protruding through a front surface of the door a reinforcing plate 11, wherein a side member 15 of the reinforcing plate has a proximal

edge (not numbered, but shown in figure 3) and a distal edge (not numbered, but shown in figure 4 as the vertical edge of the cutouts 18 and 19), the distal edge not extending beyond the portion of the lockset protruding through the front surface of the door.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to provide British Patent Application No. 2 265 664 with a cutout, as taught by Ausubel, to enable the security system to be easily retrofitted to existing doors.

Finally, one of ordinary skill in the art is expected to routinely experiment with parameters so as to ascertain the optimum or workable ranges for a particular use. Accordingly, it would have been no more than an obvious matter of engineering design choice, as determined through routine experimentation and optimization, for one of ordinary skill to provide the second reinforcing member with a length substantially equal to the full length of the door to match the length the first reinforcing member in order to provide adequate strength to the security system.

Claim 46 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over British Patent Application No. 2 265 664 in view of Barnes and Ausubel as applied to claims 40-45 above, and further in view of Stein. Stein discloses a silicon adhesive.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to provide British Patent Application No. 2 265 664, as modified above, with an adhesive, as taught by Stein, to more securely attach the reinforcing members to the door assembly.

Claim 48 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over British Patent Application No. 2 265 664 in view of Barnes and Ausubel as applied to claims 40-45 above, and further in view of Francis. Francis discloses a second reinforcing member 60 having a tubular member 66 to receive a locking member.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to provide British Patent Application No. 2 265 664, as modified above, with a tubular member, as taught by Francis, to further increase the strength of the security system.

Claim 49 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over British Patent Application No. 2 265 664 in view of Barnes and Ausubel as applied to claims 40-45 above, and further in view of Zarzycki. Zarzycki discloses a metal door 202.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to provide British Patent Application No. 2 265 664, as modified above, with a metal door, as taught by Zarzycki, to increase the strength of the door and therefore the strength of the security door assembly.

### ***Response to Arguments***

Applicant's arguments filed January 16, 2008 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

In response to applicant's arguments against the references individually, one cannot show nonobviousness by attacking references individually where the rejections are based on combinations of references. See *In re Keller*, 642 F.2d 413, 208

USPQ 871 (CCPA 1981); *In re Merck & Co.*, 800 F.2d 1091, 231 USPQ 375 (Fed. Cir. 1986).

Regarding the applicant's comments concerning Ausubel, the examiner respectfully disagrees. As shown in figure 3 of Ausubel, the side member 15 comprises an additional material attached to the door 10. Thus, the side member 15 comprises a reinforcing member since it would provide at least some additional strength to the door. Additionally, the lock set 13, 14 extends beyond the distal edge of the side member 15 as shown in figure 4.

### ***Conclusion***

**THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.



Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Gregory J. Strimbu whose telephone number is 571-272-6836. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday 8:00 to 4:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Katherine Mitchell can be reached on 571-272-7069. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Gregory J. Strimbu/  
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 3634